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**PATENTS  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
TSAI ET AL. ) Examiner: PRATT, C.  
Serial No. 09/474,634 )  
Filed: DECEMBER 29, 1999 )  
For: BIODEGRADABLE THERMOPLASTIC )  
NONWOVEN WEBS FOR FLUID MANAGEMENT )

**RESPONSE**

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Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed November 29, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel Claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

**RECEIVED**

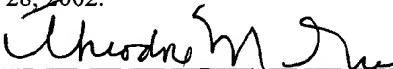
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**TC 1700**

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**CERTIFICATION OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on February 28, 2002.



Theodore M. Green – Reg. No. 41,801